**Introductory Paragraph – Background for the Conflict**

The introductory paragraph for the narrative letter gives the setting, creates the tone, presents the characters, and presents other facts necessary to understanding the conflict.

**Self Check**

Ask yourself whether your introduction answers MOST of these questions to help you evaluate your paragraph:

* What is a description of the selected character? Job? Position in town? Family history?
* Where does the narrative take place?
* When is it? Time period?
* What are the social conditions in the town?
* What is the town’s identity?
* What is the trial about?
* What is the conflict?
* What are stereotypes associated with the identity of the selected character?
* What are stereotypes associated with the opposing characters with whom there are a conflict?
* How does the selected character view the trial? Evolution?
* How do the opposing characters view the trial? Evolution?
* How does the town view the trial?
* What is the relationship between the selected character and others?